

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KINSHA 01544 210910Z

15

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
----- 065755

P 210850Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6606

S E C R E T KINSHASA 1544

EXDIS

DEPT PASS AS APPROPRIATE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, AO, UR, SF, WAS, CG

SUBJECT: HIGH GOZ OFFICIAL URGES WEST TO TAKE INITIATIVE IN  
NAMIBIA

1. SUMMARY IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE, PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S TOP ADVISOR, BISENGIMANA, QUESTIONED APPLICATION OF U.S. POLICY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. NOTING THAT ZAIRIAN AND AMERICAN INTERESTS COINCIDE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, BISENGIMANA ASKED WHETHER US WOULD BE WILLING TO SUPPORT CREATION OF A MODERATE AFRICAN BUFFER STATE IN NAMIBIA, THEREBY BLOCKING FURTHER SOVIET ADVANCES IN THE REGION. END SUMMARY.

2. IN A LONG AND TROUBLED MONOLOGUE, BISENGIMANA, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY, OUTLINED FOR THE CHARGE HIS THOUGHTS ON THE RAPIDLY CHANGING SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. BISENGIMANA SAW REAL DANGER OF A SOVIET/CUBAN THRUST INTO NAMIBIA, FOLLOWING THE MPLA VICTORY IN ANGOLA. IF THIS TRANSPIRES, BISENGIMANA WARNED, EVEN MODERATE AFRICAN STATES SUCH AS ZAIRE WOULD BE UNABLE TO PROTEST A SOVIET MOVE TO LIBERATE NAMIBIA. ANY BLOCKING ACTION BY THE UNITED STATES OF A LIBERATION ARMY IN NAMIBIA WOULD ALIENATE MOST AFRICAN STATES AND WOULD PLACE AMERICA'S MODERATE FRIENDS IN AFRICA IN AN UNTENABLE POSITION. WHILE SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT SUCCESSFULLY RESIST AN ARMED INVASION OF NAMIBIA IN THE SHORT TERM, IN THE LONG

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 KINSHA 01544 210910Z

RUN POWER AND AFRICAN SYMPATHY WOULD BE WITH THE RUSSIANS.

2. HAVING DESCRIBED THIS UNACCEPTABLE CHAIN OF EVENTS, BISENGIMANA SUGGESTED THAT THE MODERATE AFRICAN STATES IN CONCERT WITH THE US TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO ESTABLISH A BLACK AFRICAN "BUFFER STATE" IN NAMIBIA. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, HE ASSERTED, IS IN THE BEST POSITION TO URGE SOUTH AFRICA TO ACT IN ITS OWN INTEREST BY ESTABLISHING IMMEDIATELY AN INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATE IN NAMIBIA, GOVERNED BY MODERATE FORCES. SUCH A STATE COULD CALL FOR OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE AND COULD BE LEGITIMATELY DEFENDED FROM THE SOVIETS BY THE U.S. AND MODERATE AFRICAN STATES. WHILE THIS PLAN WOULD REQUIRE QUICK AND RESOLUTE ACTION, BISENGIMANA SUGGESTED THAT IT WAS PROBABLY THE MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD BY WHICH THE MODERATES COULD PREVENT THE SOVIETS FROM OUTFLANKING THEM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

WALKER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONAL OPINION, INTERVENTION, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLITICAL SITUATION, COMMUNISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976KINSHA01544  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760065-0242  
**From:** KINSHASA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760227/aaaaaxon.tel  
**Line Count:** 78  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <07 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** HIGH GOZ OFFICIAL URGES WEST TO TAKE INITIATIVE IN NAMIBIA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MARR, AO, UR, SF, WA, CG, US, (BISENGIMANA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006